

The Office Action rejects claims 19 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) of JP 63-144836 (JP 836); rejects claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP 836; and rejects claims 21 and 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over JP 836 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,840,827 to Mitzutani. These rejections are incorrect.

In particular, regarding independent claim 19, the Office Action asserts that JP 836 discloses all features recited in claim 19. In this regard, the Office Action refers to a number of figures of JP 836, including Figs. 1b, 3a, 4a, 5 and 6b.

JP 836 is a reference submitted in the August 5, 2005 Information Disclosure Statement. JP 836 is a one-page utility patent that has only one page and only one figure. JP 836 does not have the asserted figures in the Office Action.

During the telephone interviews, Applicants' representative inquired whether Examiner Baldwin misidentified the cited reference. The Examiner indicated that, based on the Patent Office's records, JP 836 has 31 pages, including all the figures asserted in the Office Action.

However, during one of the telephone interviews, a review of the Patent Office's online database indicated that the Patent Office's records are defective. In particular, in the Patent Office's database, there are 31 pages associated with JP 836. The first two pages are submitted in the IDS, including one page of the original JP 836 and a one-page translation of the claim. The remaining 29 pages do not belong to JP 836. Instead, the remaining 29 pages are the Japanese language PCT counterpart application of the present application that we submitted on April 27, 2005. Apparently, the Patent Office mismatched documents in the file of the present application.

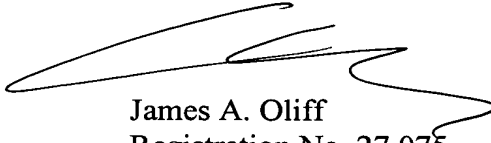
In view of the above, the Examiner advised that Applicants file a response to the current Office Action, pointing out this mismatch. He then will examine the claims again, and the next rejection, if any, will be non-final.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of the claims be withdrawn, and that the next rejection, if any, be non-final.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 19-38 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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